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CPW Report No. 64 -- COMMUNIST CHINA

(Mar. 2 - 8, 1953)

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1. (1b) STALIN'S DEATH: Peking in numeral code (Mar. 4) gave the TASS communique on Stalin's condition, after which Nanking, Shanghai, and Peking continued to broadcast news of Stalin's stroke, communique on his condition, messages to Moscow from Mao and other Chinese leaders, and calls on Ambassador Panyushkin by Mao Tse-tung, Chou En-lai, Chu Teh, and Kao Kang.

Peking in numeral code (Mar. 5) reported that the SSFA had cabled condolences to the VOKS; that the CPPCC, the All-China Labor Federation, Soong Ching-ling, and Kuo Mo-jo had sent cables; and that Party and Government officials had made calls on the Soviet Embassy and consulates in Canton, Shanghai, and other leading cities. Mukden, Wuhan, Peking, Nanking, Kunming, and Chinchow continued to broadcast these reports, along with bulletins concerning Stalin's condition. Nanking, Peking, Kunming, Wuhan, Mukden, and Chinchow devoted entire newscasts to Stalin's illness.

Peking in numeral code (Mar. 6) devoted several transmissions to reports from Moscow, visits to Soviet representatives in China, and messages of condolence. Kunming, Chungking, Shanghai, Hobei, Chinchow, Tihua, Mukden, Wuhan, Hangchow, and Tsinan substituted a Peking relay of TASS items concerning Stalin's death for their regular newscasts. Sian also carried Peking announcements of ceremonies to mark Stalin's death while Canton broadcast the Mayor's request that the Chinese people unite with the Russians in five minutes of silence in memory of Stalin.

Peking announced (Mar. 7) that the Government had ordered services for Stalin throughout the nation, including speeches by Soviet guests and displays of Soviet flags and Stalin photographs. Peking in numeral code told of ceremonies in leading cities throughout China; repeated editorials from TA KUNG PAO and other papers "in memory of Comrade Stalin"; and announced cancellation of Women's Democratic League programs originally scheduled for Mar. 8. Wuhan, Shanghai, Nanking, Chungking, Kunming, and Sian relayed Peking programs during their regular newscasts.

Peking (Mar. 8) reported that Chou En-lai and his party had arrived in Moscow; that Chinese in Moscow had placed a wreath at Stalin's casket; that the CPV order of the day called for Stalin memorial services in all units; and that Stalin commemorative broadcasts from Peking would be carried on all home and international service frequencies from 0800 to 1600 GMT. Sian, Shanghai, Chungking, and Kunming continued to devote all newscasts to Peking relays.

2. (1c) SOVIET LEADERSHIP: Peking in numeral code (Mar. 6) transmitted a JEN MIN JIH PAO editorial, "Mourn The Great Stalin, Our Teacher." Cadres in various localities were said to have made progress in study of Malenkov's report to the 10th Soviet Party Congress. Peking said in numeral code (Mar. 2) that Dairen Institute of Technology teachers intensified their study of Russian during the winter vacation. Chungking announced (Mar. 3) that the Southwest Department of Education had invited a Soviet expert to lecture on the Soviet system of education.

Peking stated (Mar. 3) that Dairen and Port Arthur residents celebrated the Soviet Army Anniversary under the auspices of the SSFA, with exhibitions, film shows, meetings, and dramatic presentations. A participating art troupe was given a token of appreciation by the Soviet General Headquarters.

Chungking asserted (Mar. 3) that by adopting Soviet methods a Szechwan steel mill increased production 124 percent in February. Peking claimed in numeral code (Mar. 4) that the Wusan factory fulfilled its norms ahead of schedule by using Soviet methods.

3. (2a) WAR PROPAGANDA: Peking asserted in numeral code (Mar. 6) that American psychological warfare had frightened the Americans and British, but not the Chinese, and that Eisenhower had openly declared that the Korean War would be settled by military measures, with Asians doing the fighting, in spite of thousands

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of letters pouring into the White House demanding that he keep his promise and bring the Americans home. Juin and Reynaud's visits to Korea were part of an American scheme to utilize Bao Dai puppet forces in the Vietnam War. Much concern had been expressed in Britain, where it was feared that American policies would build a strong antiaggression front among Asians.

Peking in numeral code (Mar. 2) carried a KRASNAYA ZVEZDA article on the "outrageous crimes" of American aggressors, while (Mar. 3) a Rumanian paper was quoted as saying that the Schwable-Bley statements completely proved American use of bacteriological warfare. Peking (Mar. 4) quoted TASS as saying that the Karachi daily DAWN had reported Japanese security forces fighting in Korea. Peking in numeral code (Mar. 3) said that New York reports showed the U.S. economy daily becoming weaker, and (Mar. 4) quoted INS dispatches showing the low morale of American troops.

4. (2a) WAR BURDENS, Wuhan (Mar. 2) stated that the chief task in Central-South China this year was to strengthen the RAAK drive "because of increasing American aggression": build up the militia, especially in lake and coastal areas, "where the latent power of the enemy is still very strong"; and, "continue counterrevolutionary suppression to cope with hidden remnant saboteurs" and special agents. Peking announced in numeral code (Mar. 4) that RAAK-sponsored medical teams nos. 15 and 16 had left for Korea.

Peking reported in numeral code (Mar. 5) that since the liberation Tihua women had participated widely in production activities. In the Central-South Military District PLA units held propaganda meetings during the Spring Festival and carried out preferential treatment work.

5. (2a) TRADE PROBLEMS: Peking announced in numeral code (Mar. 3) that Northeast shop clerks were discussing ways to increase retail sales. Peking in numeral code (Mar. 5) quoted PRAVDA comment on Ceylon's rebuff to U.S. interference in her China rubber trade. Chungking asserted (Mar. 5) that State paper mill no. 602 had reduced costs nearly 50 percent by using Soviet dyes, thus nullifying attempts to reduce dye supplies by the cutting off of British dyes through the embargo on Chinese trade.

6. (3a) BASIC CONSTRUCTION: Chungking asserted (Mar. 3) that a rerouting plan had shortened the Chungking-Nanchung highway from 330 to 121 kilometers. Peking announced (Mar. 3) that technicians from all over China were helping to increase Anshan steel production by converting smelting furnaces to automatic operations. Peking complained in numeral code (Mar. 4) that a check in the Southwest showed cadres used "aimless" methods in buying and stocking lumber and cement.

7. (3a) STRENGTHENING PARTY CONTROL: Peking asserted in numeral code (Mar. 2) that the new Mukden workers' broadcasting station would "increase the political consciousness of the workers." Peking said in numeral code (Mar. 5) that a committee had been organized to politically indoctrinate Wuhan workers. Chungking reported (Mar. 3) that 400 local workers had become political teachers, with 30,000 workers undergoing political indoctrination.

Nanking reported (Mar. 2) that local Education Department cadres were told to handle informers' reports more carefully. Peking said in numeral code (Mar. 4) that the Northwest Communist Party called a meeting to correct a lack of discipline among cadres, who were ordered to pay more attention to informers' letters, and were told that, though "wayward cadres" would be handled patiently, those "undesirables, enemies of the people," must be exposed.

8. (3a) GENERAL ELECTIONS: Peking in numeral code (Mar. 2) quoted Teng Hsiao-ping as saying that the Chinese election system "still is not as perfect as that of the USSR," the "most democratic system in the world." In time, China would "adopt

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the perfect election system of the USSR." Cadres were cautioned to use care, "as the masses are illiterate and unfamiliar with election procedure."

Peking asserted in numeral code (Mar. 3) that candidates "now heed public opinion." A Dairen official was removed for corruption, while Anhwei people called a meeting and "threw out an elected official whom they did not like." In Tunhua Hsien, Kirin, 85 "overly bureaucratic" officials were thrown out.

9. (3a) BUREAUCRATIC WEAKNESSES: Peking in numeral code (Mar. 3) quoted Liu Ching-fan as saying that government offices now had 26,611 supervisory correspondents, but "bureaucracy, authoritarianism, and law-breaking" still existed.

Peking reported in numeral code (Mar. 2) that the China Mining Equipment Company's Shanghai office had been charged with maladministration and loss of 25 billion yuan. Antung said (Mar. 5) that 60 percent of the workers at paper mill no. 11 were diseased because of heat, rats, and insects. Shanghai stated (Mar. 3) that neglect of safety and sanitation in the local Electrical Equipment Company led to 32 accidents in six weeks.

Wuhan asserted (Mar. 3) that local peasants must organize to meet natural calamities instead of being "overoptimistic, complacent, and dependent on government relief." Chungking announced (Mar. 4) that local cadres were guilty of administering government granaries carelessly.

10. (3b) RESISTANCE TO CHANGE: Antung charged (Mar. 4) that Laiyang Hsien, Liaotung, cadres failed to study and fully implement the Marriage Law. Wuhan stated (Mar. 3) that the Central-South Administrative Committee met to review implementation of the law and correct erroneous methods of cadres.

Chungking announced (Mar. 3) that a committee had been organized in Yaan, Sikang, to propagandize the Marriage Law. Peking said in numeral code (Mar. 4) that the Chungking Marriage Law Implementation Committee was attempting to correct the errors of cadres, who had disregarded the Party directive and who had said that they had "studied enough of the Marriage Law," and "were doubtful of the people's reception of another directive on the Marriage Law."

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